

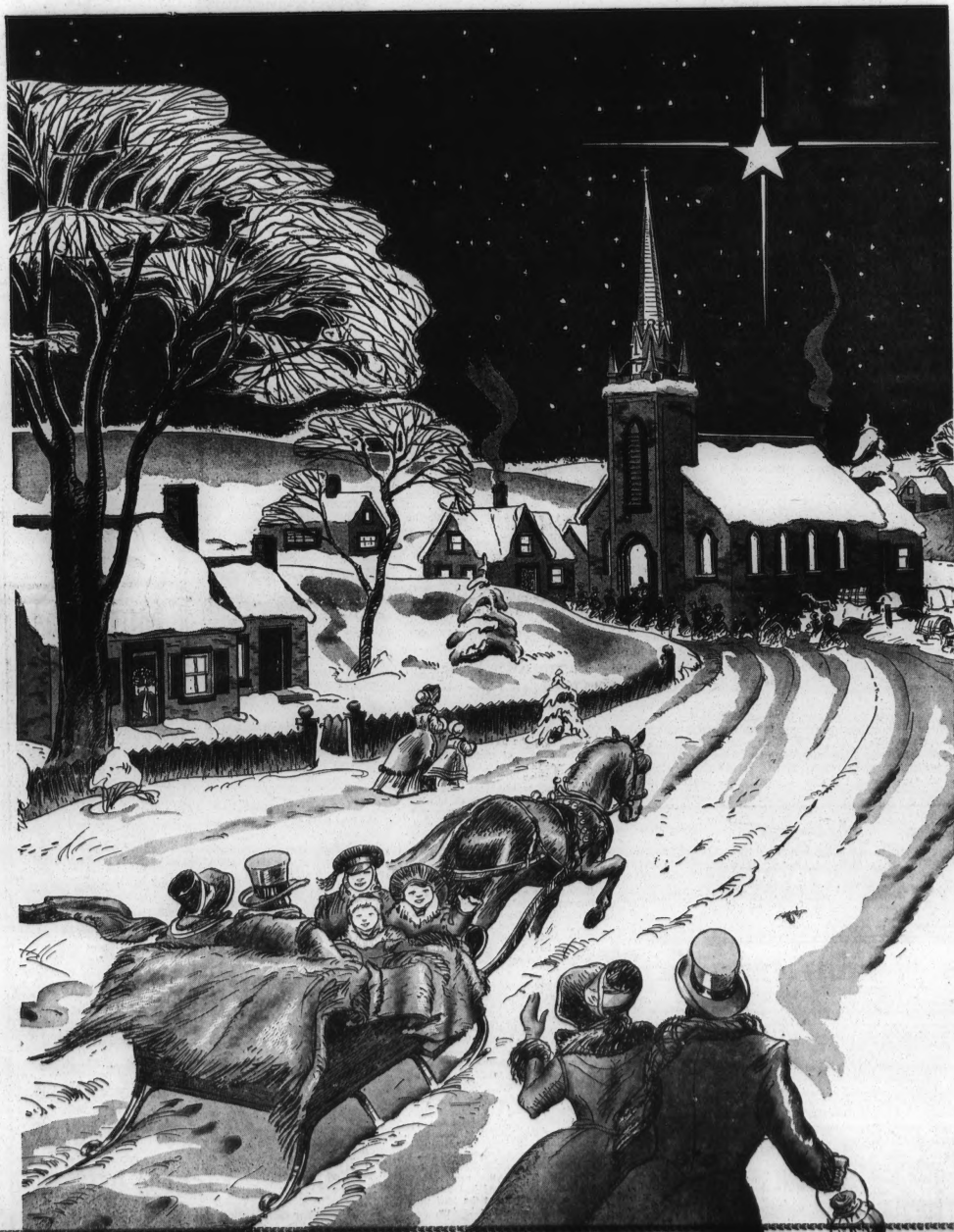
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EDMONTON, ALTA

The Crossfield Chronicle

Vol. 1, No. 31

EDMONTON, ALBERTA, DEC. 24, 1949

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A Merry Christmas To All!

BEST ATTAINABLE IMAGE
FROM DOCUMENT AVAILABLE

Skagway-Whitehorse Railway World's Toughest To Run

By JACK BIRD

(Last of a series
on the Northland)

It was early in the morning, and quite dark, I remembered, when I first saw the town of Wrangell, on Wrangell Island.

The mountains all around—for I was taking the Inside Passage—were a blue-black with white peaks and ridges. The whole top line of those ridges had stood out sharp and clear against a light blue sky that was full of stars.

I recalled how cold and silent it had looked up there on those mountain tops of ice and snow, and there was a feeling of endless time about it all. Along the shore there had been the sound of many birds. Although it was mid-November, it seemed like spring to hear the continual twittering and chirping of bird life.

GREAT COUNTRY

Alaska means "Great Country" and that is just what it is — a great country — and the last American frontier. The capital is Juneau. Coming upon it as a guest, from the sea, it is a mass of yellow lights that at a distance seem to twinkle.

This town of 7,500 is built along the narrow shore-line and sides of a mountain. On the steep flanks of the mountain, at one end of the town, is a big gold mine, all lit up, with heaps of rock and dirt right down to the water's edge.

Skagway is at the north end of the Lynn Canal. As the ship draws up to the dock you notice on your right that the whole face of the high gray cliff is one mass of ship's names, and dates, and crests and house flags. They are all painted in colors, and are expertly done. It is called a ship's register.

Skagway today is only a ghost of its former self. In its heyday, when the "Klondike" was going over White Pass to the Klondike, there were some 10,000 people in Skagway, and they had 90 saloons. Today there are only 650 people and two saloons—or cocktail bars, as they are really called.

PACK TRAIN INN

As you walk through the town you see on every hand the old

buildings of the days of '98 all boarded up, and sadly in need of paint—if they ever were painted in the first place, which looks doubtful. The old original saloon, called "The Pack Train Inn," still stands and is still in use.

I went in and had a look at its bar. But all the trappings of former times are gone, although one may see them, as I did, in the private museum of one of the two hotels. Both these hotels are run by the same woman. In this bar of the Pack Train, Robert W. Service had drunk, and Frank Gotch, one-time heavyweight champion wrestler of the world, and Tex Rickard, the promoter, and other notables.

COST MILLIONS

From Skagway I took the train to Whitehorse, 110 miles away. Because so much of this roadbed was carved and blasted out of the solid rock of the sides of the mountains, it cost approximately ten million dollars to build it. Finished in 1900, it is called the toughest railroad in the world to operate.

It is wild and rugged, this pass, and three engines pulled our 12 cars over the nearly 2,900-foot hump, with its Dead Horse Gulch down below. Although it was warm and raining at Skagway, there was snow on the ground up at the pass and more was coming down.

Our train travelled along the whole shore-line of Lake Bennett, which is a 27-mile-long body of pale green water that lies between two rows of brown mountains that slope back from its edge. Half this lake is in northern British Columbia, the other half is in the Yukon.

Lake Bennett today is a scene of quiet grandeur and beauty, but in the days of '98 it was a hive of industry. As many as 5,000 men were there in tents, for here it was that the stampaners, having crossed the pass, built their boats and rafts and scows to take them the rest of the way by water to the Klondike.

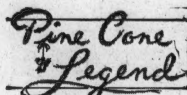
ONLY A CHURCH LEFT

Today the only thing standing of those former times is the Little Presbyterian church. It is only a shell of a building, with log

slabs nailed to its frame-work. I don't think there ever was a wooden floor in it, for the floor is all sand; no platform up front and no pulpit and no inside wall, just the bare ribs of the frame. The skin of some animal hangs on one wall, and some old dog harness and long dog sleighs and several beds clutter up the place.

I remember wondering, as I stood there in its one main room, how many of the stampaners in their mad rush for the gold fields, ever stopped long enough to worship here.

(The end)



Once upon a time—according to Harz mountain legend—a poor miner's wife was gathering pine cones in the forest. It was just before Christmas, her husband was ill, and there was no money in the house for food. So, she gathered the cones and sold them to the villagers for kindling—obtaining enough for the day's necessities.

One morning while she was looking for such cones, a little imp jumped out of a huge fir tree.

"Here, here are the biggest, driest cones of all. Take these," he shrieked, jumping up and down excitedly.

Suddenly, there was such a shower of cones that the poor woman was frightened. She tried to run away, but could not move until the little imp had filled her basket. And, having started home, the basket grew heavier and heavier—she wished the elf hadn't disappeared, he might have helped her.

When she finally reached her hut, she called the children to help carry the basket inside. Emptying the basket, they found that every cone was made of solid silver.

Commemorating these legendary silver cones, gilded pine cones are sold in modern stores, to decorate our homes—to burn and crackle gaily in our Christmas fires.

Pagan Rites Basis Of Many Customs

Strange as it may seem, most American Christmas customs stem largely from Pagan rites practiced long before the birth of Christ.

The custom of exchanging gifts is one of the few that springs from the Christian era. Christmas candles, bonfires and Yule logs arise from the heathen festivals observing the winter solstice, December 21, when the days begin to lengthen. That was a time of great rejoicing for ancient sun worshippers who built bonfires to give strength to the "winter sun-god."

Pre-Christian Romans ornamented their homes with green boughs and flowers for the Feast of Saturnalia which began December 19. Druids gathered mistletoe for that season, while ancient Saxons used holly, ivy and bay. Modern mistletoe and holly wreaths come from those people.

Christmas trees, too, spring from the ancient German days when Germanic tribes made sacrifices to the sacred oak tree of Odin. When the missionary St. Boniface travelled to Germany in the Eighth Century and saw these celebrations he persuaded the natives to substitute a fir tree for the oak and to adorn it in a tribute to the Christ Child.

During the Middle Ages the entire Christmas season was celebrated in equal fervor with that now shown on Christmas day. In some lands the celebration lasted from December 24 to January 6—Twelfth Night—and in others from December 21 to February 2. By the year 1644, Christmas in England had become such a wild orgy that the Puritans forbade its celebration by law.

Most powerful weapon in the fight against tuberculosis is the X-ray. Christmas Seal dollars are still needed to buy more X-ray equipment. If you haven't sent your, do it now.

BROOKE CLAXTON IN PARIS



—Central Press Canada
Canada's minister of defense, Brooke Claxton, stands in reverence at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Paris after placing flowers at the Arch De Triumphant.

Mistaken Efficiency

REDLANDS, Calif.—The city is out \$35 because one of its refuse collectors guessed wrong. An auto supply firm scoured southern California for a certain type of automobile fender. It finally was delivered, but after closing hours. Early next morning, the rubbish truck came by. Leaning against a door was the fender. But it was too big to get in the truck. So the trucker carefully ran over it several times to reduce its size. The city council heard the story, agreed to foot the bill.

Illustrating a Point

DETROIT — Patrolman John Major and Roland Knight of suburban Ferndale noticed a car parked in a wooded, secluded area early in the morning.

"Don't you know this is dangerous?" they asked the boy and girl occupying it. "There might be men lurking around here with guns."

Major flashed his light around in a grand gesture. The beam showed a man crouched near the car and carrying a revolver. The prowler was held.

Grave Error

TULSA, Okla.—A grave error was committed by an automobile burglar. He slashed a hole in the parked car's top and fled with a handsome suit of men's clothing. But there was a slight catch. They were burial garments—false front affairs with zippers up the back.

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Wallis' 'September' Rolls at Paramount

HOLLYWOOD. — Hal Wallis recently put "September", his 16th production for Paramount, before the camera with a cast headed by Joan Fontaine and Joseph Cotten under direction of William Dieterle.

Exteriors for the romantic drama were filmed in Italy with Fontaine and Cotten appearing in sequences filmed in Rome, Naples, Florence, at the ruins of Pompeii and on the Isle of Capri.

Françoise Rosay, the noted French character actress, who scored heavily in the English production of Somerset Maugham's "Quartet," reports to Wallis this week for the start of her role.

Tons of Offspring

CLINTON, Ill. — Harold Morris boasts of winning one of the "busiest" sows in these parts. The sow gave birth to a record litter of 19 pigs. Six months later she presented another litter, this time totaling 16 pigs. At the age of six months the 10-pig litter weighed in at 4046 pounds.

A Proud Record

ALBERDEEN, Wis. — W. G. Pough joined the First Baptist Church here when he was 14. He is now 77, but his record of religious service totals 166 years. He's been a church member for 63 years, a deacon for 34, a trustee for 23, treasurer for 23, clerk for 21, and Sunday School superintendent for two.



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The Christ-child lay on Mary's lap, His hair was like a light, (O weary, weary were the world, But here is all alright.)

The Christ-child lay on Mary's breast, His hair was like a star, (O stern and cunning are the kings, But here the true hearts are.)

The Christ-child lay on Mary's heart, His hair was like a fire, (O weary, weary is the world, But here the world's desire.)

The Christ-child, stood at Mary's knee, His hair was like a crown, And all the flowers looked up at Him, And all the stars looked down.

—G. K. Chesterton.

Magi Were Priests Of Persian Religion

Along about this time of the year there's a lot written, said and sung about the Magi. Just who were the Magi, anyway?

The Magi were priests of an ancient Persian religion called Zoroastrianism. The Greek historian Herodotus gives a very favorable account of them and their influence in a society which existed four hundred years before Christ's birth.

According to Herodotus the Magi were powerful in public and private affairs. They conducted the education of the young princes, and were in "constant attendance upon the king as counselors."

This description of a Magi appears in the sacred writing of Zoroaster: "Thou shouldst call him priest, who sits the whole night thru, and yearns for holy wisdom that enables man to stand upon death's bridge fearless and with happy heart, the wisdom whereby he attains the holy and glorious world of paradise."

The three Magi, or Wise Men, who followed the Star of Bethlehem and brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the Christ child, remain nameless, but they were the first to recognize the importance of the birth of the Prince of Peace.

One Scotch factory now produces more than 2,100,000 alarm clocks a year.

ALL FUSEL 'GE AND NO WINGS



—Central Press Gazette
They look like any other chickens, except that they are almost all fuselage and no wings. A Des Moines, Iowa, breeder developed the new strain of chickens after 12 years of patiently mating birds accidentally born without wings or with wings slumped. They will be shown in the National Farm show in Chicago this month.

Healthful Ventilation

In every office and workroom warmth, moisture and use-up air . . . not to mention dust and tobacco smoke . . . are being given off all the time by the occupants. Unless the air is kept moving it becomes stagnant and oppressive and good, accurate work becomes difficult. Good ventilation is essential to the health of workers. A well ventilated workroom soon pays for itself in increased production.

Fun And Games

Children need plenty of freedom for open-air games and sports. They need to run, jump, skip and climb if their bodies are to develop healthfully and their minds to mature normally.

Not Dead, Just Hungry

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — "I'll never live to get back to Evansville," said a note found on a road near Worthington, Ind. The name of Mrs. Allane Griffith of Evansville was found on a scrap of paper near by.

Mrs. Griffith, awakened at her home by apprehensive officers, explained that she had written the note to a friend at a convention at Indianapolis when it ran past lunch time and she was becoming famished.

Then, motoring home, she had decided to clean out her purse along the highway.

Tuberculosis never rests or takes a holiday. It must be fought not only at Christmas time but all year round. Your Christmas Seals will have been only bits of colored paper unless you send in your donation to help save a life.



SANTA CLAUS is one of the most precious wonders of childhood. American mothers overwhelmingly agree that he should be portrayed as the spirit of generosity, kindness, and gift-giving.

Although the modern conception of Santa Claus is American, the Spirit of Santa Claus is neither modern nor American. The real Saint Nicholas lived in Asia Minor and ever since his death in 343 stories concerning him have been repeated around the firesides of Europe.

The children of Lapland and northern climes naturally picture Santa dressed in fur and dashing through the snow in a reindeer-drawn sleigh. But in central Europe, St. Nicholas first appeared on his liturgical feet day, December 6, and he was a thin, austere churchman who rode a mule and carried gifts for good children and a bundle of birch rods with which to switch the naughty.

Under Dutch influence St. Nicholas lost his solemnity. The Dutch called him who brought him to America were very practical people and they decided against two gift-giving days in the same month. Thus, Sinter Klaas started coming around only at Christmas time.

Santa Gets a Sleigh.

Eventually, ancient legends were woven into American Christmas traditions. Washington Irving sent St. Nicholas flying through Christmas skies in a reindeer-drawn sleigh in 1809. Dr. Clement Moore's poem "The Night Before Christmas," written in 1822, gave Santa " . . . a little round belly that shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly;" and a series of drawings in 1868 by Thomas Nast added much to the traditional pictures and appearance of the Santa we see today.

In every youngster's life there comes the time when he begins to suspect that the various be-whiskered gentlemen, so numerous during this season, are not exactly the real Santa Claus. Wise parents advance the "helper" theory as soon as they are asked questions and teach their children to make the Christmas dreams of less fortunate tots and their families come true.

Thus, the real Santa Claus isn't just myth or legend. He is the Spirit of Christmas who lives in the sparkling eyes of children and in the hearts of all grown-ups who strive for peace and good will among men.

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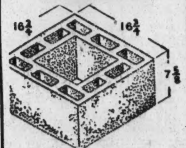
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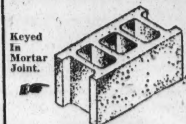


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Provincially Speaking

Albertans wagered \$3,845,579 through pari mutual windows on the gee gees in 1949. This was an increase of nearly \$400,000 over 1948 (\$3,447,771). For 43 days of racing, compared with 39 last year, prize money amounted to \$220,360, approximately \$22,000 more. Edmonton bet \$2,086,124

on their guesses and Calgary \$1,759,649 . . .

Southern Alberta Dairy Pool, the Co-operative Milk Company of Calgary and the Alberta Dairy Pool of Red Deer merged, effective Dec. 1 . . . Those who may have wondered why provincial government officials go dashing

agitatedly about, at the first rumor of a rat in Alberta will understand the reason more clearly if they listen to J. H. Brown, entomologist with the Alberta health department. A rat invasion would cost the province \$20,000,000 annually, and one pair of rats could, if all survived, have 3,500,000 offspring, he says . . .

George McIvor, chief commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board, has informed the Alberta Wheat Pool that there is a distinct possibility that world wheat surpluses will develop. From a producer's standpoint, the world-wheat situation was already back to normal . . . The oil pipe line from Edmonton to Regina should be completed by next fall, according to G. L. Stewart, president of Imperial Oil Company. At the outset, about 100,000 barrels of oil daily will be put into the line at Edmonton . . .

Sugar content in beets in southern Alberta is averaging only 14.5 per cent this year compared to 17 per cent last year . . . Alberta hospitals will get \$35,000 worth of X-ray equipment from Christmas Seal funds. Lamont, Lloydminster, Lethbridge St. Michael's, Calgary's Holy Cross and Edmonton's Royal Alexandra hospitals will benefit. Object is to provide 50c X-rays for all patients who enter hospitals for discovery of T.B. . . .

Around Wainwright apparently even safeblowing has its season. The R.C.M.P. detachment issued a warning to businessmen to be on the watch "as this was the time of year for these people to be particularly active" . . .

Covering all sections of the province, a total of 4,890 miles of roads have been improved this year according to the public works department. Total outlay was

\$3,870,000. Central and northern roads accounted for \$1,830,004 and the area south of Red Deer for \$1,256,996. With 209 miles of hard surfacing of main highways also completed, cost of the 1949 highway is unofficially estimated as more than \$13,000,000, highest in provincial history . . .

Amount spent on roads almost exactly equals revenue for the 1948-49 fiscal year from gasoline tax and automobile and truck licenses, which totalled \$13,353,443. License fees amounted to \$4,775,876 and collections under Fuel Oil Tax Act, \$8,577,567.

Veteran Swimmer Proposes Change In Crawl Stroke

An Associated Press report out of Princeton, N.J., reveals that Jamison (Jam) Handy, who helped develop the six-beat American crawl swimming stroke, has come out for a radical revision of the crawl to match the slower beat Japanese freestyle technique.

Handy has advocated for some time a change in the American free style stroke. He cited the record-shattering performance of the Japanese last summer in the National AAU swimming meet in California to back up his contention.

"That showing devastatingly proved our crawl stroke to be inferior to the new Japanese technique," Handy said.

To prove his point he plunged into Princeton University's Dillon Pool and demonstrated the two-beat Japanese style before 600 swimming coaches, officials, high school and college swimmers there for a swim clinic sponsored by the swimming officials and coaches association of New Jersey.

W.A. Held Meeting December 7th

SANGUDO.—The W. A. of the Sangudo United Church held their regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. P. Kerr, on Wednesday, December 7th.

The nominating committee brought in their list of nominations and as there were no other nominations in the meeting the following slate of officers was elected.

President—Mrs. Peacock.
Vice-President—Mrs. Korber.
Secretary—Mrs. Benson.
Treasurer—Mrs. Ian Gilchrist.
Convener of Manse Committee—Mrs. Langston.

Convener of Visiting Committee—Mrs. Conrad.

The acting treasurer, Mrs. Langston, gave the financial standing and the final results of the chicken supper.

Insurance value on the manse furniture was raised. Some of the other business agreed to by the meeting was a contribution to the Church Board; also decision on the usual Christmas gifts was decided on.

D.V.A. has assisted about 50,000 Canadian veterans in university studies and about 100,000 in vocational training.

The former Olympic swimmer on the 1904 and 1924 U.S. teams said Americans should study the style of Hiroshi Furuhashi, standout Japanese performer.

He said Furuhashi won the 400, 800 and 1,500 yard freestyle events in record time at the AAU meet using the slower two-beat kick and an unorthodox arm stroke.



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a table abundant with
food, surrounded by
happy, smiling faces.

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Merry Christmas

Like your Christmas stocking our wishes for you contain nothing but happiness. May this be a merry, merry Yuletide and the happiest New Year for you and every member of your family.

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"'Tis the Season of Good Cheer"

We wish you a Good Old-Fashioned Merry Christmas. May your home echo with Merry warmth of laughter and the hearty ring of gaiety. May the coming year bring you every measure of joy and prosperity.

Inserted
by

THE BREWING INDUSTRY OF ALBERTA

Wheatland School Division Meets

BEISEKER. — On Tuesday, Dec. 6 a divisional meeting of Wheatland School Division No. 40 was held in the hall.

Nominations were received to

fill the position of trustee for this section of the division. Mr. Campbell who has acted in this capacity since the inauguration of the Wheatland Division, has consented to stand again and Mr. J. H. Schmaltz was nominated to run in opposition to him.

Emile Cammaert Is Shorthorn Director

ROCKYFORD. — In the election of officers of the Alberta Shorthorn Association in Edmonton, Monday, Don J. McKinnon of Carlsland, former president of the Avondale Shorthorn Club, was named president, succeeding Lyle Robinson. Hugh Sharp of Lacombe was made vice-president.

Directors elected are T. H. Halliton, Innisfail; W. D. MacDonald, Granger; E. J. C. Bonke, Acme; Algar Lyseng, Camrose; Pat Haddon, Okotoks; Claude Gillingier, Edmonton; Howard Byers, Clover Bar; John Cross, Nanton; Hugh Eaglesham, Cauley; Emile Cammaert, Rockyford; Pete Stefura, Chipman; Lyle Robinson, Vermilion; A. G. Wilson, Duhamel; Gilbert Creech, Wainwright.

ROCKYFORD NEWS

ROCKYFORD. — Congratulations to Mike Stinn and Dick Koester on their recent engagements.

Mr. B. Fuller, Mr. Joe Tante, Mr. F. Henke and Miss Lorraine Hendricks were visitors in Calgary one day last week.

Congratulations also to Dan and Muz on their engagements. Mr. and Mrs. L. Dietrich are back from their trip to California.

BEISEKER NEWS

BEISEKER. — Fr. Mulnar of Drumheller conducted forty hours devotion in St. Mary's Catholic Church during the past week.

The high school is glad to report that Wanda Van Housen is back after her appendix operation.

On Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Valker entertained in their home. Among guests were Mr. and Mrs. B. Schmaltz, Mr. and Mrs. K. Killen and Mr. and Mrs. T. Murray.

Mr. Fred Campbell is up and about after his recent illness.

Herds Are Tested In District

BEISEKER. — The bovine tuberculosis inspector has been testing the herds of the farmers in the district.

Baltzer Silberg was the most unfortunate owner. Of the fourteen head of cattle he owned, thirteen were infected.

Also the Anton Hagel boys lost two, one being their registered Hereford bull they bought last spring at the bull sale in Calgary.

Notice To Creditors And Claimants

IN THE ESTATE OF HARRISON ULYSSES CROCKETT, late of the City of Los Angeles, in the State of California, one of the United States of America, Farmer, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having claims upon the estate of the above named Harrison Ulysses Crockett who died on the 12th day of February, A.D. 1949, are required to file with Messrs. Fitch and Driscoll, by the 19th day of January, 1950, a full statement duly verified of their claims and of any securities held by them, and that after that date the executors will distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which notice has been so filed or which have been brought to their knowledge.

DATED this 8th day of December, 1949.

FITCH & DRISCOLL,
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31-35 Union Building,
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THE CROSSFIELD CHRONICLE

MARGARET VETTER, Local Editor

Published Every Week by Community Publications,
1615 Whyte Ave., Edmonton, Alta.

T. W. PUE, Publisher; L. H. JENKINS, Editor

Authorized as Second-Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa

Western Hemisphere Tab May Total 300,000,000

National Geographic Society say that the 1950 census to be taken in all Western Hemisphere nations will supply vital statistics and basic facts on occupations and standards of living of 300,000,000 people.

They base their figures on 150,000,000 people in the United States, 50,000,000 other North and Central Americans and 100,000,000 South Americans.

YULETIDE GREETINGS

Norm's Barber Shop

Crossfield

Hint for duck hunters: When arranging your decoys watch the wind direction so that ducks flying over may land into the wind.



— a night of prayer and reaffirmed faith. We wish you all the joy and contentment He may bestow upon you.

Mayor and Council Village of Crossfield

MERRY CHRISTMAS

The happiest of season's greetings to everyone. We thank you for your patronage during the past year.

May the coming New Year bestow upon you good health, happiness and friendship — the most important possessions in life that money alone can't buy.

Margaret Vetter

Local Editor—Crossfield Chronicle

Our heart felt thanks for your patronage, and our best wishes for a joyous season.

CROSSFIELD MEAT MARKET

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To folks who are little and folks who are big, folks who are round and folks who are slim—to just all the folks we know, Merry Christmas.

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12. Former name of Honolulu	5. Half an em	23. Genus of lily	39. Permit
13. Level	6. Map	24. Having a protective coating	42. Roman pound
14. Intruded (slang)	7. Book of hours	25. Ill-tempered	
15. Minus	8. Vine of mulberry	26. Soak in	
16. River (Russ.)	9. Fish	27. Girl at a co-educational school	
17. Sharp to the last	10. Land in which Cain settled	31. Top of milk	
19. Subside	14. Inlet	32. Indian buffalo	
22. An island universe	15. Hewing tool	35. Scottish-Gaelic	
23. Mast			
24. Solitary			
27. Beach			
28. Classify			
29. Striped with cords			
30. Chinese river			
31. Deal with			
32. Solitude			
34. Part of "to be"			
38. Stared fiercely			
40. Metal			
41. Volcano in Sicily			
42. Palm (Braz.)			
43. Vapor			
44. Fragment of pottery (var.)			
DOWN			
1. God Adam			

Some Safety Rules For Holiday Season

It only takes a small amount of carelessness to turn the joyous Christmas holiday into a tragic event. The Christmas tree is the danger spot. There are a few simple precautions that will assure a safe and merry Christmas. Never burn real candles on your tree.

Don't risk using frayed cords and broken plugs.

Avoid placing powerful lamp bulbs near fancy ornaments, synthetic materials, paper or cotton.

Don't go away and leave your tree lighted.

Be very careful when smoking around Christmas package wrapping material.

Secure the tree by wires to the wall so that tiny tots will not be able to bump or pull it over.

Christmas Seals are a protection against tuberculosis. Send your contribution and use Seals on all your holiday mail.

Don't forget to send in your Christmas Seal donation.

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The minstrels played their Christmas tune.
Tonight beneath my cottage eaves;
While, smitten by a lofty moon,
The encircling laurels, thick with leaves,
Gave back a rich and dazzling sheen,
That overpowered their natural green

Through hill and valley every breeze
Had sunk to rest with folded wings;
Keen was the air, but could not freeze.
Nor check the music of the strings;
So stout and hardy were the band
That scrupled the chords with strenuous hand.

And who but listened? till was paid
Respect to every inmate's claim:
The greeting given, the music played
In honor of each household name,
Duly pronounced with lusty call,
And "merry Christmas" wished to all!

—William Wordsworth.



The bell, the world's oldest and simplest musical instrument, is the world's most universal Yuletide symbol. Each nation has its individual symbols of Christmas, but the bell will be found somewhere in the traditions of every one.

Bell authorities claim that Pope Sixtus gave us the first church bells in 604. The custom has grown until there is no use of church bells so widely known as the ringing of the chimes to herald the advent of the birth of Christ.

In recent years the ancient bell has "grown up" into the carillon, a highly sensitive instrument on which Christmas carols seem to find their most perfect expression.

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE!

Donald Woods Signed For Crosby Picture

HOLLYWOOD.—Donald Woods will join Bing Crosby and a top-line cast in "Mr. Music," Paramount announced recently. The film marks start of Woods' 15th year in pictures and this is his first appearance at Paramount since "A Son Comes Home," with Mary Boland 12 years ago.

In recent years concentrating on radio, Woods plays the role of Richard Rhineland in "My Friend Irma," the CBS show starring Marie Wilson.

In "Mr. Music" Woods continues his series of stuffy characterizations, being cast as Tippy Carpenter, action of a diamond laden family. The cast also includes Ruth Hussey, Charles Coburn, Robert Stack, Nancy Olson, Dorothy Kirsten and Peggy Lee. Richard Haydn directs.

For The Daily Diet

Although your children need vitamin D every day, this elusive substance is not found in sufficient quantity in any normal diet . . . no matter how well planned. The answer is that vitamin D should be provided as an extra, in capsules, liquids or other preparations. Your druggist has a wide, inexpensive selection.

Is there a forgotten letter in your desk? A letter with Christmas Seals? Don't neglect that letter. It is important. Answer it today.

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Quality Potatoes From Muck Soils

Although potatoes of low cooking quality are frequently grown on muck soils, it is quite possible to produce a crop of excellent cooking and keeping quality on this soil type.

At the Dominion Experimental Substation for muck lands, at Ste. Clothide, Quebec, a large number of experiments in connection with the nutrition of the potato crop have been conducted during the past ten years. These experiments have shown that without exception good quality on this soil type is associated with high yield, and high yields are obtained only with a correct balance of nutrients.

The amount of fertilizer to apply will depend to some extent on the available soil moisture. On non-irrigated, dry muck land areas it is probable that no more than one thousand pounds of 2-8-16 per acre can be utilized by a potato crop.

On other areas where water control is effected by seepage irrigation, or other means, a profitable response may be obtained from applications up to two thousand pounds per acre; providing climatic conditions are satisfactory.

On the muck land areas of Southwestern Quebec, crops of four hundred to five hundred bushels per acre are being consistently obtained with applications of fifteen hundred pounds of 2-8-16 per acre.

Furthermore, potatoes from this region are in strong demand on the wholesale markets and meet with ready sale.

Newcomer To Make Debut In 'Outrage'

HOLLYWOOD.—A 22-year-old Mexican youth who has never been in a motion picture, recently was given an important role in Pine-Thomas' "Outrage," Paramount release about modern mob violence. He will share top roles with co-stars Gail Russell and MacDonald Carey.

The youth is Lalo Rios, born in San Miguelito, Mexico. He was moved to Los Angeles in 1936 with his parents. Last year he joined a youth club and appeared in a historical play centred around the history of Los Angeles.

Joseph Losey, who is directing "Outrage," saw the play and arranged for an interview with Producers Pine and Thomas. He was signed for the part without even a test.

A Nickel's Not Enough

CLAYTON, Mo.—In a divorce petition filed in Circuit Court here, Fred H. Becker, a machinist, alleged that his wife, Theresa, forced him to wash dishes, clean the house, mop the floors and wash his own clothes. In addition to having to do all the housework, Becker said his wife took all of his pay and gave him only a nickel a day for a cup of coffee.

Christmas Music By Bach, Handel

For a great many people the music of Bach and Handel makes difficult listening — until Christmas comes around. Then, suddenly, everybody starts singing and humming tunes by the two old masters.

The reason for this is that both Bach and Handel were church musicians. One of their tasks was to compose songs for church congregations to sing. They provided themselves masters of beautiful, easily followed melodies in their Christmas music. Our most famous Christmas oratorios and carols come from Bach and Handel.

"How Brightly Beams the Morning Star" was composed by Bach and his "Christmas Oratorio" contains the themes of several other popular chorales.

In almost every town and village in America this Christmas a church choir will render at least a portion of George Frederick Handel's "The Messiah." When carolers sing "Joy to the World" they'll be singing part of the "Messiah" too, for that carol comes from themes found in the great oratorio. Handel also composed the musical theme of "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks."

It is a strange fact, but both Bach and Handel were born in 1685, lived for many years within thirty miles of each other, and never met. Yet today, the Christmas music they wrote is sung by men, women and children in countless churches of many faiths all over the world.

Flowers Are Part Of Yule Legends

There are several flowers appropriate during the Yuletide season which are connected with the birth of Christ by the legends of history. Saintoin, or "Holy Hay," is said to have cradled the infant Christ in the manger. The snowdrop is the flower of the Virgin Mary, and is said to be the emblem of the candles she lighted on Christmas.

According to legend, the Christmas rose was divinely created. A shepherd maid went at having no gift to lay before the Babe in the manger. Suddenly an angel appeared to her. On hearing why the maiden wept, the angel touched the ground where her tears had fallen and immediately the place was white with the emblem of the candles she lighted on Christmas.

The chrysanthemum is said to have appeared first on Christmas Eve near the manger as a sign to the Wise Men that they had reached the spot where the star had bidden them.

Parents Can Spoil Children's Play

Here's a Christmas resolution for parents. It's one that ought to be made before New Year's resolutions are even considered. It goes, "I will keep my hands off the children's toys all day on Christmas." It'll be a hard one to keep because Mother likes to fuss with Ann's doll. She gets ideas she is showing Ann how to put on the bonnet, but she's actually having a grand time playing. And once Father gets his hands on the train, or the auto that winds up, the boys can't get near them.

It isn't fair. The children are crying for a little peace and freedom. After all, adults can play with toys for the next 364 days if they want to.

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AND IT IS AN EIGHT-DAY

CLOCK!!

...IT MEANS IT WILL

RUN FOR EIGHT

DAYS WITHOUT

WINDING... YEAH?

...HOW LONG WILL IT

RUN IF YOU

WIND IT?

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CLOCK!!

...EIGHT-DAY

CLOCK?

NOW THIS WOULD MAKE A

LOVELY PRESENT FOR YOUR

GRANDPARENTS...



... and the boundless
joys of the season
towards men of
good will.

**GORDON AGENCIES
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Through the shop-
ping and the giving
we hear the Christ-
mas greeting. Lend
your ear to ours on
this festive day.

**W. T. Wood
& Son
Crossfield**

Report From Mrs. Cox's Room

BEISEKER. — The pupils in grades 5 and 6 are very busy with their Enterprise called "Christmas Time." We are learning about the customs which have come to us from many other lands.

Everyone is making his own booklet which we hope will be finished by Christmas. The boys and girls have made Christmas borders, a crib, decorations for our tree, and Christmas cards. You would be surprised to see the "Santa on the Housetop" table decoration made by the boys.

At our party on Dec. 22 we will draw for the sewing basket which

was very kindly donated by Mr. Chris Schmaltz for the Junior Red Cross hospital. The basket was made by a little boy in the Junior Red Cross hospital and lined by the little girls.

We hope everyone in Beiseker will buy tickets to help the boys and girls.

Honored By Dance

ROCKYFORD. — A dance was held in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bensted, who were recently married, in the Rockyford town hall, Friday, Dec. 9.

A tri-lamp was presented to them from the community. Dancing was enjoyed by all and the music was supplied by a local orchestra.



May you carry with you
throughout the year — the
joyous spirit that is Christ-
mas.

**Edlund's Drug Store
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SEASON'S GREETINGS

To One and All

**T. R. CUMING
Crossfield**



GREETING

Like your Christmas stocking our wishes for you contain nothing but happiness. May this be a merry, merry Yuletide and the happiest New Year for you and every member of your family! We hope we will enjoy your patronage during the coming year.

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Storage**



May the warm glow
of good will and hap-
piness prevade your
every moment this
Christmas season.

**HARRY MAY
Crossfield**



May His blessings be
upon you on this
Christmas Day, and
on all the Christ-
mases to come.

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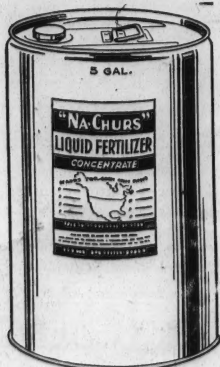
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The cost is very little, and if it will increase your wheat yield, it is too good to pass up. Many enthusiastic growers have written about the fine results obtained with **"NA-CHURS."**



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